



# PRESS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

September 27, 2002

### **IRS EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY TO MISUSE OF COMPUTER CHARGES**

Patricia A. Bowling, a former Internal Revenue Service (IRS) employee, pleaded guilty today in U.S. District Court in Jacksonville to charges she unlawfully accessed her computer while an employee of the IRS and used information she accessed to obtain a credit card in another person's name. According to the plea agreement, Bowling, age 45, admitted she made various purchases, with the credit card she fraudulently obtained, between January of 1999 and April 2002 in excess of \$1,000. At the time of the offense Bowling was employed by the IRS and was a customer service representative in the Jacksonville office.

Bowling faces a maximum sentence of up to eleven years' imprisonment. This case was investigated by the U.S. Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration and it was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kathleen O'Malley.